

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) Rolling bearing comprising at least one ring provided with raceway and rolling elements to engage said raceways, wherein said ring and raceway comprise a ball bearing steel, said ring and/or rolling elements having a nickel-phosphorus coating characterized in that said coating comprising at least 9% by wt phosphorous.

2. (Original) Rolling bearing according to claim 1, wherein said coating comprises at least 70% by wt. Ni and 9-20% by wt. phosphorus.

3. (Currently Amended) Rolling bearing according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein between said bearing steel and the coating an adhesion a layer is provided.

4. (Original) Rolling bearing according to claim 3, wherein said layer comprises a nickel-layer.

5. (Original) Rolling bearing according to claim 4, wherein said layer has a thickness smaller than 1 μm .

6. (Currently Amended) Rolling bearing according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein said coating has a thickness between 2-30 μm [[,]] preferably 10-20 μm and more preferably about 15 μm .

7. (Currently Amended) Rolling bearing according to ~~one of preceding~~ claims claim 1, wherein said ball bearing steel comprises about 1% by wt. C, 1,5% by wt. Cr and balance Fe.

8. (Currently Amended) Rolling bearing according to ~~one of preceding~~ claims claim 1, wherein the an outer surface of the rolling elements comprises a ceramic material.

9. (Currently Amended) Rolling bearing according to ~~one of the preceding~~ claims claim 1, wherein the an outer surface of the rolling elements comprises a low friction coating.

10. (Currently Amended) Method for producing a rolling bearing comprising at least one ring provided with raceway and rolling element to engage said raceway, wherein said ring and raceway comprise a ball bearing steel, wherein said ring and/or rolling elements are coated with a nickel-phosphorus coating, and ~~characterized in that~~ before coating said elements a striking-layer is provided.

11. (Original) Method according to claim 10, wherein said striking-layer is electrolytically applied to said elements.

12. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 10 ~~or 11~~, wherein said ring and/or rolling element are produced from ball bearing steel and after hardening and possibly finishing are subjected to a machining step wherein about the same amount of material is removed as is deposited during subsequent depositing of the nickel-phosphorus coating.

13. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~one of the claims 10-12~~ claim 10, wherein said coating comprises chemical deposition.

14. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~claims 10-13~~ claim 10, wherein the rolling elements are coated and said coating comprises moving of said elements in a bath during coating.

15. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~one of the claims 10-14~~ claim 10, wherein after coating the rolling elements and ring are directly assembled.

16. (New) Rolling bearing according to claim 1, wherein said coating has a thickness between 10-20 μm .

17. (New) Rolling bearing according to claim 1, wherein said coating has a thickness of about 15 μm .